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FREEDOM FOR EAST TIMOR

East Timor is a non autonomous territory which was invaded by Indonesia in 1975 and has remained occupied ever since. At the time the former Portuguese colony was preparing itself for the process of decolonisation, following the democratisation of Portugal. This would have allowed the Timorese to exercise their right to self-determination, in accordance with International Law.

In order to hinder the independence of East Timor, Indonesia first promoted instability and then invaded the territory on 7 December 1975.

In 1976 the integration of East Timor into the Republic of Indonesia was declared contrary to the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations (12 December and 22 December 1975) which recognises "the inalienable right of the people of East Timor to self-determination and independence" and "calls upon the Indonesian government to withdraw without further delay all its forces from the territory "

Since the beginning of the occupation 200,000 Timorese have been killed - about a third of the population. Arbitrary imprisonment, torture, forced disappearance are daily practices of the Indonesian colonisation of the Timorese population. The massacre, of mainly young people, at the Santa Cruz cemetery on 12 November 1991 was merely another episode in this.

Faced with this situation, we demand that the resolutions already approved by the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers of the European Community, in which the basic rights of the Timorese people were reaffirmed, be translated into concrete actions.

The European Community must bring pressure to bear on Indonesia by insisting on:

- **the freeing of all Timorese political prisoners;**
- **a credible international enquiry into the 12 November massacre;**
- **the opening up of the territory to human rights organisations, journalists, and other international observers;**
- **the holding of talks without pre-conditions, with the participation of all interested parties - Portugal, Indonesia, representatives of the Timorese people - under the auspices of the United Nations.**

The Member States should stop economic and military aid to the dictatorial Indonesian regime until such a time as international law is upheld in East Timor and the Timor people can freely exercise their right to self-determination.

Lisbon, 26 June 1992

* A Paz é Possível em Timor-Leste
* Assistência Médica Internacional - AMI
* Assoc. Guineense de Solidariedade Social
* Associação Jovens por Timor
* Centro de Inf. e Doc. Amílcar Cabral - CIDAC
* Centro de Reflexão Cristã - CRC
* Comissão para os Direitos do Povo Maubere
* Conf. Geral dos Trab. Portugueses - CGTP/IN
* Conselho Nacional da Juventude - CNJ
* Forum Estudante
* Jovens Unidos por Timor
* Movimento Alfacinha
* Movimento Cristão para a Paz - MCP
* Mov. de Est. Universit. pelos Direitos Humanos
* Movimento 'Évora por Timor'
* Movimento Pró-Timor de Leiria
* Paz e Justiça para Timor-Leste
* Sindicato dos Jornalistas
* União Geral de Trabalhadores - UGT